# BSBAC Buzz



# An active life is a good life!

The mission of the Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center is to facilitate active aging and to enhance the quality of life of older adults in our communities.







# **Build Social Bonds to Protect Health** The Power of Personal Connections

From an early age, we learn that nutritious foods and physical activity can help us stay healthy. Growing evidence now suggests that social connections may also be key to good health. Socially connected people tend to live longer. They're at lower risk for serious health problems. Social bonds are also linked to our mental health, eating habits, and much more.

Despite the links between our social ties and health, there's been a troubling increase in social disconnection around the world. About 1 in 3 adults nationwide report feeling lonely. About 1 in 4 say they lack social and emotional support.

**Social Bonds.** Many factors can contribute to a person feeling lonely. These include the quality of your personal relationships, your community, and society in general. Your personal health, life stage, and personality can also have an impact.

People who are socially isolated or feel lonely are more likely to have heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure, depression, or anxiety. They're also at increased risk for Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia, and for early death.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected our relationships and feelings of isolation. But the breakdown of social bonds was growing long before

the pandemic. Over the past few decades, fewer people have been joining community groups or faith-based organizations.

Scientists are working to better understand the links between social bonds and our health. And they're looking for ways to counteract the effects of loneliness and social isolation.

"Humans are a social species. We are highly dependent on others from birth," says Dr. Elizabeth Necka, an NIH expert on social and behavioral science. "So feeling socially isolated can make you feel as though you're in a very stressful situation. And stress has been associated with chronic inflammation, which can have effects on cardiovascular health." Long-lasting inflammation has also been linked to cancer and other health problems. And our ability to biologically respond to stressors weakens with age.

**New Connections.** "If you're feeling lonely or socially disconnected, it can feel intimidating to try to form new connections," Necka says. For example, you might go to the grocery store at the same time every week and see the same clerk. You can smile and strike up a brief conversation. Over time, you might feel more comfortable connecting with others in different ways.

From: https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2025/03/ build-social-bonds-protect-health



Note from the Center & **Upcoming Events** 



Weekly Activity Schedule & Fellowship Menu



Health & Fitness Schedule

8-9

IO



**October Event Flyers & Special Events** 



**Brain Games** 





- newsletter BSBAC.com website
- Facebook page

- Posted flyers/notices at the Center
- Text messages & email updates
- Weekly Announcements



As we welcome the hopefully cooler days of October, I'm reminded of the importance of connection, community, and care. At the Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center, we continue to see firsthand how meaningful it is for older adults to gather, share stories, laugh, and support one another.

This month, our calendar is full of opportunities to celebrate the season together - from festive fall crafts to our ever-popular bingo, fitness classes, and social activities. Each program is designed not just to entertain, but to create spaces where friendships grow and loneliness fades.

We also have some great vendors and presentations this month for **Active Aging**. They will be sharing valuable resources on services, wellness, health, and lifestyle for older adults. These sessions will give members the chance to learn and connect with local providers.

As you read through this newsletter, I encourage you to mark your calendars, join us for an activity or two, and invite a friend along. Together, we are making this fall a season of warmth, fellowship, and fun.

Warm regards,

Reghan Swenson



## October I

1:00pm - Book Club

# October 3, 17

10:00am - Downsizing Workshop

### October 10

10:00pm - Flu Shot Clinic

# October 6, 20

10:00am - Mexican Train

# October 7

10:00am - Presentation: Advance Directives Workshop

## October 8

10:00am - Card Creations

1:30pm - Arts & Crafts Series: Pumpkin Hanger

# October 9, 16, 23

9:30am - Daytrip to El Mercado, San Antonio Market Square



# October 13, 27

12:35pm - Bunco

# October 13

8:00am - Mammogram Bus

# October 14

Pink Out Day - Wear Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness

11:45am - Lunch & Learn: Medicare 101

## October 21

11:45am - Presentation: Veggie Confetti, How to Grow Microgreens

# October 22

10:00am - Presentation: The Dementia Journey

# October 27

9:30am - BSBAC Annual Meeting

## October 31

11:00am - Halloween Party Potluck







For nearly four decades now, the country has recognized October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It is a time annually devoted to educating everyone about breast cancer — including metastatic breast cancer (MBC) — and the importance of early detection and access to timely, high-quality care. The mission of the Susan G. Komen Foundation is to save lives by meeting the most critical needs in our communities and investing in breakthrough research to prevent and cure breast cancer.

No matter who you are or where you live, breast cancer may touch your life. It's necessary to understand the warning signs of breast cancer, your risk of breast cancer and what's normal for you so you can take action if there are any changes in your breasts or underarm areas.

Since 1989, **Susan G. Komen** has helped drive down mortality rates from breast cancer thanks to our focus on early detection and improvements in treatment. And more progress is still needed. Through research, growing knowledge about breast cancer has led to new therapies and targeted treatments that improved outcomes for many people. It is research that brings hope to people facing this disease, especially those living with MBC. We need to ensure more treatment options are available for all people facing breast cancer, especially when treatments stop working.

**Know Your Risk.** Knowing your family history is lifesaving. Talk to a doctor about your family history and see how that history impacts your risk of breast cancer.

> 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. That's one person every 2 minutes in the U.S.

**Get Screened.** For those at average risk, have a mammogram every year starting at age 40. If you have any signs of breast cancer, finding it early and treating it early may save your life.

**Know Your Normal.** It's important to know what's normal for you so you can talk with your health care provider if something doesn't look or feel right.



Make Healthy Lifestyle Choices. Living a healthy lifestyle is within your control and may lower your risk of breast

cancer. Maintain a healthy weight, limit alcohol intake and exercise regularly. It all matters when it comes to your overall health and risk of disease.

**Take Action.** There are many ways you can join our fight to save lives. Whether it's by supporting one of our generous corporate partners; becoming an Advocacy Insider; fundraising through the Race for the Cure, MORE THAN PINK Walk or our Komen 3-Day; participating in a fundraising challenge on Facebook or creating a fundraiser of your own that is meaningful to you, your support can help us take action to invest in research and help those facing breast cancer today.

**Need Help?** The Komen Breast Care Helpline is a free resource available for every person, including survivors, caregivers, those living with metastatic breast cancer and people who have not yet been touched by breast cancer but have questions about how to better care for themselves. The Helpline specialists and oncology social workers provide emotional support and guidance to resources and Komen's other Patient Care Center services. such as financial assistance, access to screening and diagnostic services, and patient navigation.

For more breast cancer information and resources, visit komen.org.







# MONDAY 📢



9:00am Wood Carving

10:00am Dominos: Mexican Train 1 (1st & 3rd Mon)

11:30am Fellowship Meal

12:00pm Swoop Card Game (1st & 3rd Mon)

12:35pm Bunco (2nd & 4th Mon)

1:00pm Bridge Foursome (1st & 3rd Mon)

2:30pm Table Tennis

2:45pm Intermediate Spanish

# TUESDAY



11:00am Mah Jong

11:30am Fellowship Meal

1:00pm Bingo

3:45pm Beginners Spanish

# **THURSDAY**



9:00am Wood Carving

9:30am Canasta Hand & Foot

Tables drawn @ 9:45am Play begins @ 10:00am

11:30am Fellowship Meal

12:00pm Mindful Meditation 1:00pm Bible Study

1.00pm bible study

2:30pm Dementia Support Group (2nd Thur)

# FRIDAY ••



10:00am Downsizing Workshop (1st & 3rd Fri)

10:00am Grief Support Group (4th Fri)

11:00am Fellowship Meal

12:15pm Bingo

# WEDNESDAY



9:00am Bridge

10:00am Card Creations (2nd Wed)

11:30am Fellowship Meal

12:00pm Advanced Poker Group 12:00pm Beginning Poker Group

12:00pm Knitting/Crochet/Sewing Group

1:00pm Book Club (1st Wed)

1:30pm Arts & Crafts Series (2nd Wed)

1:30pm Guitar

2:00pm Caregiver Support Group (3rd Wed)



"Aging gracefully means finding beauty in each new season of life."

- Unknown





# October

# FELLOWSHIP MEAL MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
		Pulled Pork Mac & Cheese Dessert	Ham & Cheese Quiche Green Salad Dessert	Baked Potato Bar Salad Dessert	
Shredded Beef Tacos Mexican Rice Dessert	National Night Out Lunch NATIONAL POLICE COMPANIE PRINTERINGS	Marry Me Chicken Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Dessert	Stuffed Bell Peppers Buttered Corn Dessert	Honey Butter Chicken Biscuits Fruit Dessert	
Southern Chicken Bowls Dessert	Cheeseburger Soup Green Salad Dessert	Chicken Fajita Mexican Rice Dessert	Queso Chicken Bake Mexican Rice Beans Dessert	Pizza Green Salad Dessert	
Potato Soup Salad Dessert	Chicken Pot Pie Green Salad Dessert	Beef Stew Green Salad Dessert	Sub Sandwiches Pasta Salad Fruit Dessert	Taquito Enchiladas Pinto Beans Dessert	
Buffalo Chicken Wrap Carrot & Celery Sticks Chips Dessert	Chef's Choice Dessert	Hot Honey Glow Bowl Hot Honey Chicken over Brown Rice Roasted Veggies Dessert	John Wayne Casserole Green Salad Dessert	Halloween Potluck Frito Pie	









Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		9:00a Zumba Gold Toning (Adaia) 10:00a Active Aging Strength (Sissy) 11:15a Balance & Strength*(Sandra) 12:30p Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 2:30p Line Dancing (Dattie) 3:45p Mindful Flow & Core (Diana)	8:30a Easy Pace (Renee) 9:30a Zumba Gold (Adaia) 10:45a Chair Yoga (Sandra) 12:00p Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 2:30p Pilates (Meleah) 4:00p Restorative Yoga (Myrna) 5:30p Zumba (Sandra)	8:15a Self-Defense (Diana) 9:30a Posture Strength (MaryAnn) 11:00a Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 12:15p Balance & Strength* (Sandra)
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Mon-Thurs: 8:00am - 6:00pm, Fri: 8:00am - 3:00pm

\*Balance & Strength Class is FREE for all BSBAC Members









# Class Descriptions HEALTH & FITNESS



# **ACTIVE AGING**

This class helps improve strength. The instructor will take you through a variety of exercises for a complete workout. Get comfortable using circuit equipment as well as resistance bands, medicine balls, free weights, etc.



## **BALANCE & STRENGTH**

This class is recommended for members with concerns about balance and loss of upper and lower body strength. Focus will be on functional fitness as well as balance and strength.

\*Free to all members



# **CHAIR YOGA**

Chair yoga is a gentle practice in which yoga postures are performed while seated and/or with the aid of a chair. Benefits include improved strength & energy, improved flexibility & balance, and improved concentration.



# **DRUMFIT**

DrumFIT's Music, Motion & Memory Program encourages participants to socialize and move together for brain and body health. This unique program uses movement through drumming to benefit both the mind and body.



## **EASY PACE**

Beginner to intermediate aerobics that includes cardio, marching in place, and basic arm and leg movement patterns. Improves muscle strength, flexibility, endurance, coordination, and balance.



# **LINE DANCING**

Line Dancing is choreographed to a variety of music with repeating series of steps that are performed in unison. Learn some fancy footwork while challenging your mind to memorize these fun sequences.



# **MINDFUL FLOW & CORE**

Peaceful meditation music while incorporating movement flexibility, static stretching, and core exercises. Equipment used will be straps, mats, foam rollers, and more to improve your mind, body and soul.



## **DII ATES**

Pilates is a low impact exercise comprising controlled movements that enhance your balance, core strength, mobility, flexibility, and even mood. It focuses on the smaller and deeper muscles that support your structure and enhance your overall health.



# POSTURE STRENGTH

Gain a deeper understanding of postural alignment, postural habits, postural impacts and targeted exercises to correct them. Using strength and release principles of Corrective Exercise, this class will bring awareness to one's own imbalances and tips for everyday life.



# **RESTORATIVE YOGA**

A therapeutic style of yoga which utilizes props to make it easier for the body to get into certain poses. The focus of this class is relaxation, renewal, effortlessness, ease and a completely supportive environment.



# **SELF DEFENSE**

Class incorporates gross motor skills by learning strikes. Practicing these strikes over and over in classes creates muscle memory allowing you to be able to protect yourself. You also will learn to project your voice to deter predators. (Boxing wraps are recommended for hitting the pad, but not required.)



### YOGA

Slow flowing class of gentle stretching and physical postures using breath to connect mind and body. This is an excellent way for improving flexibility, balance and great for de-stressing.



# **ZUMBA/ZUMBA GOLD**

Zumba is a dance-fitness class that is set to zesty Latin music like salsa, merengue, mambo, etc. Zumba Gold modifies the moves and pacing to suit the needs of the active older participant.



## **ZUMBA TONING**

Zumba Toning is perfect for those who like Zumba, but want to put extra emphasis on toning and sculpting to define those muscles. The challenge of adding resistance by using toning sticks, helps you focus on specific muscle groups, so your muscles stay engaged.



# EVENT FLYERS & SPECIAL EVENTS













Tuesday, October 14, 11:45 a.m.

You're invited Please join us to learn more about Medicare

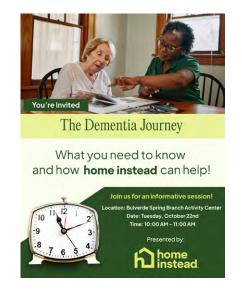
No obligation to enrol



























Adkins, Donna Aguilar, Athena Aguilar, Mary Allchin, Kenneth Alonzo, Simon Anderson, Julia Barron, Terry Bomersbach, Eunice Britz, Catherine Cannon, Sandra Carroll, Diana Cauthon, Sandra Chavez, Velda Cicci, Michael Clark, Vanessa Coburn, Kim Cockrell, Carman Decambaliza, Marilyn Denman, Allyn Denny, Clifton Denny, Ron Diaz Reyes, Luis Dingel, Susie

Doll, Larry Erler, Debra Evans, Mary Flanagan, Mike Fox, Kay Gatlin, Bruce Glasby, George Glover, Samuel Gonzales, Margie Gonzales, Molly Gonzales, Susan Gosselin, Japke Hancock, Michelle Hardeman, Pam Harkins, Nancy Hatle, Gail Hawkins, Ted Henrich, Bill Hernandez, Gloria Hester, Matthew Heye, Laura Hitsman, Joyce Hodge, Lori

Hodge, Ricky Hood Sr., Rodney Jennings, Mike Jones, Bonnie Jongewaard, Faith Kaster, Annie Khokhar, Pir Klar, Allen Laubach, Will Lautner, David Lautner, Vickie Lilly, Kandy Lindemann, Brenda Lindquist, Rosalie Masterson, Barbara Matson, Karen Mauger, Joan McAninch, Darlene McElmurry, Laurie Mckinley, Élaine Meeks, Rhonda Moreno, Linda Morgan, Julia

Nelson, Kimberly Orosco, Lisa Parsons, Barbara Peterson, Pamela Phillips, Cynthia Plunkett, Wayne Poole, Deborah Ramirez, Emilio Razo, Eusebio Riley, Elayne Roath, Jack Rodriguez, Graciela Rogers, Tonie Scates, Jan Schlagel, Sharon Schmalstieg, Lydia Schwaben, Christa Scott, Ron Seal, Olivia Segovia, Ana Sekel, Gene Sharp, Eve Shumate, Karen

Sifuentes, Elsa Simmons, Kathy Slangal, Deborah Smith, Sherry Solis, Cheryl Sosa, Cecilia Spradley, Priscilla Tarbox, Dorothy Temple, Judy Trudeau, Clorinda Uithoven, Cheryl Varela, Flor Velez-Begnoche, Wanda Vickers, Donna Vise, Melodie Vonder Embse, Vicki Walker, Donna Wehe, Barbara Weigensberg, Cheryl Willars, Tonia Williford, Ronald Yarborough-Opp, Britni

# **GAMES**



WE RYAHKZBNUTC В TSCUETSORFDROS PQNJWIVGXT DE TKJFUBHOAECOL VNRED IPSLMRBHU PBGZRQHFASM GFTWLEVSNBRUTNIAN KBZJCHILEPBUFOG EJRHSAUQSYGWLKOSXH EHAGLIUMTFEBNOSRNE QPNOHVLUCADMEF JDLTUCSEONHLPB UCRETAEWSPDFMZIBCOHN SMTPNFCZROIWYAQHD YUNSEVAELZCRHPOKM RAKEQHDMXNRESJPICE SHYCBGUKOPTDMFLAR PFRQYROTXZWJNBULASEMID WXBDOJHARVESTPCIOQYSNL LHZMSIJFWORCAQYNKBPUGX

apples autumn birds blanket bonfire changing

EXERCISE

Your Brain!

cider

colorful cozy crow deciduous equinox flannel foliage

frost jacket leaves orchards

harvest hayride migrate

pumpkin quilt rake rustling scarecrow season spider

squash squirrel sunflower sweater trees vegetables wheelbarrow

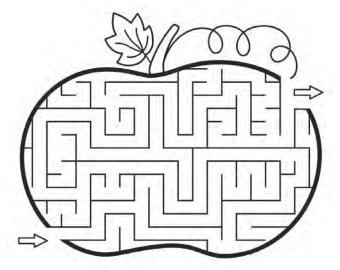


# Sudoku

A 9×9 square must be filled in with numbers from 1-9 with no repeated numbers in each line, horizontally or vertically

		1	3	2			
		3		7		4	5
		7					9
		6	5	ĬĠ		7	
2	. 1			+ 11.31			1
	9			1	4		
5	1	Ė			9		
5 6	1		2	1121	8		
			9	8	5		

# Solve the Maze



# Commonisms



- 2. Miner - Dentist - Guitar Player
- Acquarium Army Car
- Sharp Cream Cottage
- Debtors Congress Ducks
- Car Tree Elephant
- Corn Baby Olive
- Picnic Easter Waste
- Toilet Fly Wrapping
- 10. Lug Wing Square

\*COMMONYMS SOLUTIONS: 1) All deliver; 2) All use picks; 3) Tanks; 4) Cheese; 5) Bills; 6) All have trunks; 7) Oils; 8) All are baskets; 9) Types of paper: 10) Nuts







# HEALTHY LIVING AND BREAST CANCER RISK

# ST CANCER RISK



**Susan G. Komen®** 1-877 GO KOMEN (1-877-465-6636) komen.org

# Related educational resources:

- Breast Cancer 101 videos (specifically the following):
- Finding a Healthy Balance
- Diet and Nutrition
- Exercise (Physical activity)
- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Bone Health
- Breast Cancer Risk Factors



### Eat fruits and vegetables

Eating fruits may be linked to a lower risk of breast cancer. And eating vegetables may be linked to a lower risk of some breast cancers.

Carotenoids are natural orange-red food pigments found in fruits and vegetables (such as carrots, tomatoes and sweet potatoes).

Women with higher blood levels of carotenoids have a decreased risk of breast cancer compared to women with lower levels. Fruits and vegetables are better sources of carotenoids over supplements, as supplements may have some health risks.

### Don't Smoke

Women who smoke for many years may have a slightly increased risk of breast cancer.

Stopping or never starting smoking is one of the best things you can do for your health. If you smoke, there are health benefits to quitting at any age.

### A note about emotional health

Taking care of yourself and having a sense of happiness and well-being is an important part of your health.

Practice gratitude by reflecting on the things you are grateful for and expressing them in a journal or letter.

- Do things that make you happy and bring balance to your life.
- If you are spiritual, meditate or pray. It may help you gain inner peace.
- · Consider finding social support, it can help you emotionally and physically.

This content provided by Susan G. Komen® is designed for educational purposes only and is not exhaustive. Please consult with your personal physician.

FACTS FOR LIFE

@2023 Susan G. Komen® 4/23

# YOU CAN USE







# BREAST CANCER

The fact is ... mammograms can find breast cancer up to three years before it can be felt as a lump. Learn more breast cancer facts here.





Myth: If my mom had breast cancer, so will I.

Only 5 –10 percent of breast cancer cases result from a hereditary gene.

Myth: Men don't get breast cancer.

Men represent 1–2 percent of all breast cancer cases in the U.S.



# Myth: Breast cancer often leads to death.

When found at its earliest stage, the breast cancer 5-year survival rate is 99 percent.

Myth: All lumps are cancerous.

Only a small percentage of lumps are cancerous. Have it checked by your doctor to be sure.

## Myth: I need a mastectomy to effectively treat cancer.

Studies show lumpectomy with radiation has the same survival outcomes as mastectomy for early stage breast cancer.



## Myth: Breast cancer hurts.

Early breast cancer is rarely painful. Breast pain is often caused by noncancerous conditions such as hormonal changes or cysts.

## Myth: You can't lower your risk.

Ninety percent of breast cancers are largely due to lifestyle and environmental factors, such as healthy weight, alcohol use and activity levels.



# Center HAPPENINGS

# **September Arts & Crafts - Diamond Art Coasters**





Have you seen our new BSBAC Swag Shop?

Every \$1 you spend in our gift shop is a \$1 raised for our classes and building. Shop with a purpose and show off your favorite BSBAC gear!



Bulverde Police Department promoting National Night Out 2025!

We had a surprise performance for our members courtesy of Sylvia Hill's talented family.





















We've had a great month of presentations, vendors, and clinics for our Active Aging Month. Be sure to check out the schedule and flyers for October's presentations and vendors.













































# **Main Applications**

- Relieving mild constipation
- Improving stomach and intestinal health

# **Supportive Compounds**

- Fructose
- Phenols

## **Medicinal Actions**

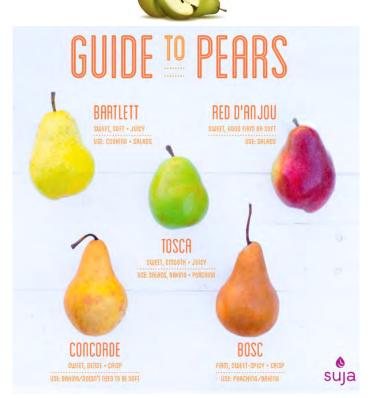
The digestive and laxative benefits of pear are attributed to its high levels of dietary fiber, which work along with fructose to alleviate constipation. The exact method of action that helps lower cholesterol and improve intestinal health is yet to be known, but it is thought to be related to the phenols present in pear.



Source: herbazest.com - For informational purposes only.

HerbaZest.







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Good Neighbor Agent since 2006



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**Rod Garcia** *Transportation* 



Allen Klar Transportation



Terre Sawey Transportation

# Board Members

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Bobby Craft Ethan Myers Melodie Vise Michelle Hoehn Seth Prescott





The Bulverde Senior Center (BSC) and Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center (BSBAC) is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization that provides services to seniors in the Bulverde/Spring Branch, Texas area. Current programs include Meals on Wheels, Senior Outreach, Social Activities, and Health & Fitness.





